

REMARKS

Applicant submits that the present application, as currently amended, is in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-16, 24-43 and 51-60 are pending, with claims 1-5, 7-8, 11, 16, 24, 26-43, and 51-55 amended, claims 56-60 added, and claims 17-23 and 44-50 cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Independent claims 1 and 30 have been amended to recite the features of amended claims 16 and 43, respectively. Independent claim 29 has been similarly amended. Claims 1-5, 7-8, 11, 16, 24, 26-43 and 51-55 are further amended to maintain antecedent basis. No new matter is added.


In response to the election requirement, Applicant elects without traverse species “a” – sequentially. Claims 1-16, 24-43 and 51-60 read on the elected species.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Michael E. Monaco, Registration No. 52,041 at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: May 12, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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